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RHODE ISLAND FILM FORUM RETURNS, AUGUST 9th

An in-depth interview with Filmmaker and Actor Amy Redford to be this year's keynote event

(PROVIDENCE, RI. August 1, 2012) First introduced in 1998 by the **Rhode Island International Film Festival** (RIIFF), the popular **Rhode Island Film Forum** returns for a special symposium on key issues affecting the film community in Rhode Island and surrounding New England.

"The theme of the Forum this year is 'Rhode Island: An Independent State for Film,'" says Dr. Kevin Esch, Director of Special Programs and Policy for Flickers. "For me, that encompasses both filmmaking and film exhibition, how people are keeping independent film alive on both ends of the equation. One doesn't mean much without the other."

The three panels at the 2012 Forum will take up this theme of independence:

MAKING THE MOST OF RHODE ISLAND ON FILM:

"Rhode Island has established itself as a melting pot of cinematic creativity," says Steven Feinberg, Executive Director of the RI Film & TV Office. "Over the last few years, we have had the pleasure to support these diverse filmmakers, and we've witnessed their growth from bright-eyed students to experienced professionals. As their productions continue to expand in scope, more and more opportunities arise for locals across the state. The combination of vision and collaboration is the essence of successful filmmaking, and we look forward to sharing some stories with our friends at the Rhode Island Film Forum."

Panel experts include:

Steven Feinberg, Executive Director, RI Film & TV Office

Duncan Putney, local filmmaker and Creative Producer at Original Concept and Development Associates

Ben Bornstein, special effects and make-up artist

Colin Walsh, Rhode Island-based Location Manager

Anthony Ambrosino, producer, director, and founding member of Rhode Island Film Collaborative

FILM EXHIBITION BEYOND THE MULTIPLEX:

Exhibition experts will discuss surviving and thriving amidst the swiftly changing landscape for independent theaters and alternative venues, the impact of digital projection technologies, and the possibilities that the future holds for filmgoing in Rhode Island. Moderated by Film Forum Director Kevin Esch.

Panel experts include:

John W. Smith, RISD Museum Director

Keith Brown, co-founder of Boston Open Screen and URI Filmmaker

Kathy Staab, Executive Director/Owner, Jane Pickens Theater and Event Center

TRANSMEDIA TECHNOLOGY: THE FUTURE OF STORYTELLING:

How does a media company founded just three years after the invention of still photography survive for nearly two centuries—and remain fresh and vital in the Internet Age? Providence Journal videographers



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show some of the paper's finest films and discuss their craft from artistic, news and business points of view.

Panel experts include:

Michael Delaney, Journal Managing Editor for Visuals
Sandor Bodo, Staff Photographer/Videographer, The Providence Journal
John Freidah, Staff Photographer/Videographer, The Providence Journal
Frieda Squires, Staff Photographer/Videographer, The Providence Journal
Steve Szydlowski, Staff Photographer, The Providence Journal

This year, filmmaker and actor **Amy Redford**, whose film "**Delivery**" is entered into this year's Rhode Island International Film Festival (and screened later that evening at **The Vets**, 9:00 p.m.) will be the keynote event. In an in-depth interview with Film Forum Director Kevin Esch, she will discuss her films, moving from acting to directing, and finding her creative voice.

The RI Film Forum will be held on Thursday **August 9, 2012** from **8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.** at the **Providence Biltmore Hotel**, 11 Dorrance Street, Providence, RI. Tickets are **\$10** in advance (\$20 at the door) and are available to the general public. Tickets can be purchased online using this [link](http://www.eventbrite.com/event/3936135086).
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This event is sponsored in part by **The Providence Journal, the Harrington School of Communication and Media and the University of Rhode Island, Roger Williams University, the RI Film and Television Office, and the Blackstone Valley Tourism Council.**

For more information about the **Rhode Island Film Forum**, to enroll, or for an application go to the Rhode Island International Film Festival website [here](http://www.film-festival.org/RIForum2012.php) (<http://www.film-festival.org/RIForum2012.php>) or call the RIIFF office at 401.861.4445.

ABOUT FLICKERS: RHODE ISLAND INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL:

The FLICKERS: Rhode Island International Film Festival (RIIFF), has secured its place in the global community as the portal for the best in international independent cinema, earning the respect of domestic and foreign filmmakers, filmgoers and trend watchers. This confluence of art and commerce brought together world-class celebrities, award-winning filmmakers, new talent and audience members in record numbers last year. Ranked as one of the top 12 Festivals in the United States, RIIFF is also a qualifying festival for the Short Film Academy Award through its affiliation with the Academy of Motion Picture Arts & Sciences. There are 75 film festivals worldwide which share this distinction and RIIFF is the only festival in New England. For more information about the festival, please visit www.rifilmfest.org

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